

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims to further define the present invention and address the concerns raised under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Specifically, the limitation of claim 3 has been incorporated into claim 1. Claim 3 has been cancelled. Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to use the correct Markush format suggested by the Examiner. Claims 24 and 25 have been amended using the language requested by the Examiner. Claim 21 has been canceled and claim 22 amended to recite that the solution forms a gel at a temperature above 30°C. Support can be found in the specification, for example, paragraph 42.

Claims 1-26, 28, 29 and 32-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite to particularly point out and distinctly claims the subject matter.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to the claims, as discussed above, obviated the rejection, which should therefore be withdrawn.

Claims 4, 5, 17, 24-26 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite to particularly point out and distinctly claims the subject matter.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to the claims, as discussed above, obviated the rejection, which should therefore be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of the application.

The Examiner is authorized to charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments associated with this submission to the Nixon Peabody LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0850.

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The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if further matters need to be discussed in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Date: April 25, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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